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RoadWorks 2013...

GA DOT To Maximize Benefits & Minimize Inconvenience As Summer Highway Construction Ramps Up

ATLANTA – Summer officially begins Friday but certain things naturally occur each year to assure us it has arrived:

- Home runs fly out of Turner Field and Georgia's thousands of other ballparks;
- Youngsters begin converting flustered parents into advocates of year-round school terms;
- The cosmic correlation between sunburns, hot dogs, sweet tea and snow cones is reaffirmed;
- Our beaches, parks, lakes and mountains remind us anew why we love living here; and
- Another bumper crop of traffic cones blossoms.

Yes, once again it is the Georgia Department of Transportation's summer construction season. But despair not; the Department will be as non-disruptive as possible while making these critical improvements to the state's transportation system.

"Whether you're headed out on a family summer vacation, a day outing, or just going back and forth to work as usual, we understand you don't want to be caught up in a traffic delay," Georgia DOT State Construction Engineer Marc Mastronardi notes. "At the same time, the long days and warm temperatures of summer are a very important time for us to make needed improvements and repairs to Georgia's 18,000 miles of state and federal highways. The preventative maintenance activities we undertake in summer months save taxpayers millions of dollars in avoided reconstruction costs over the long term.

"We make every effort to minimize the impact of this work, however. Whenever it is practical, we limit roadway work and lane closures to overnights and weekends when there is less traffic," Mastronardi says. "That isn't possible on every project, but we always provide advance notice of our work through the news media, our free-call 511 phone system, and the 511 website: www.511ga.org."

Mastronardi adds that out-of-state Interstate Highway System travelers can get construction and traffic information at the State's Welcome Centers which offer both free maps and access to real-time information on construction or accident-related delays and lane closures.

As always, motorists this summer are urged to obey speed limits in general and in particular in work zones; avoid distractions; not make unnecessary lane changes; allow extra distance between themselves and the vehicle ahead in work zones; never drive while impaired; and always exercise caution.

The following are some of the Department's potentially "motorist impactful" construction jobs underway or beginning this summer, as well as pertinent media contacts:

Metropolitan Atlanta:

- Final work and lane striping on the I-285 resurfacing from West Paces Ferry Road to Ashford-Dunwoody Road in Cobb, Fulton & Dekalb counties;
- Construction of Collector/Distributor lanes alongside I-20 between I-285 and Panola Road in Dekalb;
- Reconstruction of I-20/Lee Road Interchange in Douglas County;
- Construction of a new I-85 interchange with State Route (SR) 400 in Fulton;
- Resurfacing sections of Roswell Road, South Fulton Parkway and Buford Highway in Fulton; and
- Resurfacing of portion of State Route 20 in Rockdale County.

(Metro Media Manager Mark McKinnon – 770.986.1788)

Northeast Georgia:

- Intersection improvements at State Route 316 with both SR 20 & Collins Hill Road in Gwinnett County;
- Widening of SR 347 from McEver Road in Buford to State Route 211 in Braselton both east and west bound in Hall County (2 projects);
- Construction of the State Route 10 Loop Interchange at Olympic and Peter streets in Athens/Clarke County; and
- Construction of the Cleveland Bypass in White County.

(District Communications Officer [DCO] Teri Pope – 770.718. 3924)

Northwest Georgia:

- Resurfacing I-75 in Bartow & Gordon counties
- Construction of truck passing lanes on SR 20 in Bartow & Cherokee counties;
- Interchange construction on I-575 at Sixes Road in Cherokee;

(DCO Mohamed Arafa – 770.387.4081)

East Central Georgia:

- Widening I-520 in Richmond County;
- Widening Wrightsboro Road in Richmond;
- 30 miles of resurfacing and ramp reconstruction on I-16 beginning at State Route 26 and extending to State Route 29 in Laurens and Treutlen counties; and
- Fall Line Freeway construction in Washington and Baldwin counties

(DCO Cissy McNure – 478.552.4656)

West Central Georgia:

- I-75 reconstruction in Houston & Dooly counties;
- I-75 widening at Pierce Avenue & Arkwright Road in Bibb County;
- I-75 interchange reconstruction at Jodeco Road in Henry County;
- Construction of bridge over I-75 at Walt Stevens Road and additional lane north of Hudson Bridge on I-75 NB in Henry;
- Widening State Route 96 in Houston;
- Reconstructing and widening Whittlesey Road in Columbus/ Muscogee County; and
- Widening U.S. Highway 19 in Spalding County.

(DCO Kimberly Larson – 706.646.7532)

South & Southwest Georgia:

- Construction of the I-75/Omega -Eldorado Road interchange (Exit 55) in Tift County;
- Widening of U.S. Highway 27/SR 1 in Clay & Randolph counties;

- US Highway 84/State Route 38/West Hill Avenue railroad overpass construction in Valdosta/Lowndes County;
 - Construction of State Route 31 bridge across Withlacoochee River in Lowndes; and
 - State Route 3/Liberty Expressway/Albany Bypass reconstruction in Dougherty County.
- (Kimberly Larson-706.646.7532 or David Spear-404.631.1825)

Southeast Georgia:

- I-95 and State Route 99 interchange reconstruction in Glynn County;
 - Construction of a new Diamond Causeway Bridge across Skidaway Narrows in Chatham County;
 - Construction of Truman Parkway, Phase Five, in Chatham;
 - SR 204 Spur/Whitfield Ave. widening in Chatham;
 - SR 204/Abercorn Street widening in Chatham; and
 - Widening of US Highway 1 in Toombs and Effingham counties.
- (DCO Jill Nagel – 912.427. 5743)

(In addition to the scheduled work, maintenance needs requiring immediate attention may arise at any time; detailed schedule and lane closure information on all work is posted on the 511 website and disseminated to news media.)

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org. For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit www.dot.ga.gov or subscribe to our Press Release [RSS feed](#). You also may follow us on [Facebook](#) (www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT) and [Twitter](#) (<http://twitter.com/gadepthoftrans>).

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